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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/082,496	02/22/2002	Alan Rubinstein	3COM-3833 . PSD. US.P	3756

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03/31/2004

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EXAMINER

HARRELL, ROBERT B

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2142	

DATE MAILED: 03/31/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/082,496

Applicant(s)

RUBINSTEIN ET AL.

Examiner

Robert B. Harrell

Art Unit

2142

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 22 February 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 22 February 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☒ Other: see attached Office Action.

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1. Claims 1-20 are presented for examination.
2. The applicant should use the period for responding to correct typographical errors in this application, specifically the claims such as in claim 5 (lines 9-10 "said plurality of electronic devices" lacks clear antecedent bases).
3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in-

- (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effect under this subsection of a national application published under section 122(b) only if the international application designating the United States was published under Article 21(2)(a) of such treaty in the English language; or
- (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that a patent shall not be deemed filed in the United States for the purposes of this subsection based on the filing of an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a); or

4. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Edens al. (US 6,611,537 B1).

5. Per claim 1, Eden taught an intelligent concentrator (eg., see figure 16 as example) comprising:

- a) a housing (eg., see figure 16 (2800)) configured to be accessible to a user;
- b) electronic circuitry (eg., 2840 of figure 16) residing within

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the housing for multiplexing data transfer between a first network interface (eg., see figure 16 (2802)) and a plurality of client devices ("network devices") (eg., see col. 76 (lines 30-44));

c) a plurality of client interfaces (one or more "Hot Jacks" 2896 in figures 16 an/or 17) for communicatively coupling the plurality of client devices with the electronic circuitry (eg., see col. 79 (line 65-et seq.));

d) a faceplate configured to be coupled with the housing and figured to hold a plurality of interface adapters (eg., see figure 16 (2896));

e) the plurality of interface adapters for holding the plurality of client interfaces in a substantially fixed position relative to the faceplate (eg., see figure 21(d)).

6. It is noted that col. 76 (last line) stated "daisy-chained" thus anticipating more than one hot pluggable jack 2896 for each of the devices. Thus having more than one wall mounted jack in a cluster was anticipated in light of this teaching (eg., see the set of figures 21). Also, these figures showed that the plurality of client interfaces could have different physical characteristics recited in claim 2 of this application.

7. Per claim 3, see figure 16 (2840) which implies the standard

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processor and memory combination since processors ^{need} and memory
(ie,, that which holds the software needed for the processor).

8. Per claim 4, see figure 17 (3010s) and/or 21(d).

9. Per claim 5, see figures 21(v) and/or 21(w).

10. Per claims 6 and 7, see col. 10 (lines 39-40) here system
information such as security was communicated to the network.

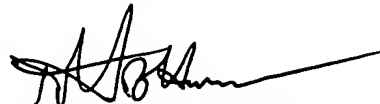
11. Per claims 8-20, they do not teach or define above the
correspondingly rejected claims and are thus also, rejected for
the reasons outline above.

12. A shortened statutory period for response to this action is
set to expire 3 (three) months and 0 (zero) days from the data of
this letter. Failure to respond within the period for response
will cause the application to become abandoned (see MPEP 710.02,
710.02(b)).

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier
communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert B.
Harrell whose telephone number is (703) 305-9692. The examiner
can normally be reached Monday thru Friday from 5:30 am to 2:00
pm and on weekends from 6:00 am to 12 noon Eastern Standard Time.

14. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are
unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack B. Harvey, can be
reached on (703) 308-9705. The fax phone numbers for the Group
are (703) 746-7238 for After-Final, (703) 746-7239 for Official
Papers, and (703) 746-7240 for Non-Official and Draft papers.

15. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of
this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group
receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-9600.


ROBERT B. HARRELL
PRIMARY EXAMINER
GROUP 2142